

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, April 18, 2017)

Generated by Sharon Ferris on Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Tom Jarboe,
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan (Via Teleconference)
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Absent: Commissioner John E. O'Connor

1. WELCOME

Commissioner President Guy called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 9:00 am in the Chesapeake Building meeting room, Governmental Center.

Approval of Consent Agenda

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes of April 4, 2017, as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

2. RECOGNITION

A Commendation was presented to **Brandon Cullins**.

3. PROCLAMATION

A Proclamation was presented for **National Animal Care & Control Appreciation Week**

4. PRESENTATION

A. ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION - Presentation of FY2018 Capital Improvement Budget and FY2019 - 2023 Capital Improvement Plan

Present: George Erichsen, Executive Director
Rebecca Shick, Chief Financial Officer

Christy Hollander, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer
Steve Engleson, Grants Administrator

Mr. Erichsen provided an overview of the Metropolitan Commission's Capital Improvement Budget noting changes made with respect to project timing in an effort to provide a more realistic schedule, allow progress to be made on the backlog of existing projects, and to lower and level off MetCom' s outstanding debt and proposed future debt. As a result, the FY 2018 CIB is less than the FY 2017 approved plan for FY 2018 by \$5,873,667 for Water Projects and \$5,983,625 for Sewer Projects and planned debt as a percentage of assessed value is below 1 % for the period of FY 2017-FY 2023. He noted that from FY 2019 - FY 2023 the anticipated Capital Contribution Charges per EDU should remain either level for water or reduced for sewer.

5. MAIN AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

A. ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION - Resolution Authorizing the Borrowing of Drinking Water Bonds from Maryland Department of the Environment

Present: George Erichsen, Executive Director
Rebecca Shick, Chief Financial Officer
Christy Hollander, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer
Steve Engleson, Grants Administrator

The St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission is requesting approval to borrow of Drinking Water Bonds from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The MDE Water Quality Finance Administration, Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund provides twenty year loans and the current rate is 1.7%.

I move to approve the Resolution authorizing the loan with Maryland Department of the Environment for the Piney Point Water System Project and the St. Clements Shores Water System Replacement Project in the maximum principal amount, not to exceed \$2,665,000 and \$5,498,000 respectively; and authorize Commissioner President to execute all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Jarboe, Morgan

Nay: Commissioner Hewitt

B. DEPT. OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY - Decision on Extending the Existing Metrocast Cable Franchise Agreement

Present: Bob Kelly, Chief Information Officer

Mr. Kelly noted a public hearing was held on March 14, 2017. Three citizens provided comments at the hearing and 1 comment was received during the 7 day open comment period. On July 26 the CSMC requested that the agreement be further negotiated to include three additional items: 1) Channel 98 - Hi-Def, 2) Cable Plant Expansion cost sharing provision, and 3) a Senior Citizen Discount. Metrocast did not agree to a Senior Citizen Discount.

I move to authorize the extension of the existing Metrocast Cable Franchise Agreement for 10 years and approve the budget amendment for a \$15,000 grant award for equipment upgrades for Channel 95, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Jarboe, Morgan

Nay: Commissioner Hewitt

C. DEPT. OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Amend Chapter 254 of the Code of St. Mary's County, MD to Define Agriculture Operation

Present: Chris Kaselemis, Director. Dept. of Economic Development
Jamie Raley, President, St. Mary's County Farm Bureau
Donna Scasser, Agriculture and Seafood Development Coordinator,
Dept. of Economic Development

The St. Mary's County Farm Bureau requested an update to the definition "agricultural operation" in the St. Mary's County Right to Farm Ordinance. The desire is that there be uniform definition for agriculture, agriculture land, agricultural activities and agricultural operations in all St. Mary's County laws and ordinances.

I move to authorize the Department of Economic Development to schedule a public hearing to consider an amendment to Chapter 254 of the Code of St. Mary's County, MD to define an agriculture operation.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

D. DEPT. OF FINANCE - Decision on Request to Amend Chapter 223 of the Code of St. Mary's County, Maryland, to Repeal and Re-Enact Provisions for a Development Impact Fee

ITEM WAS TABLED.

6. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR APRIL 25 & MAY 2, 2017.

B. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION - Christmas in April Tip Fee Waiver

I move to adopt the Resolution waiving the landfill fees for Christmas in April projects associated with the annual program scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

C. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION - Stormwater Management Grandfathering

I move to approve the policy proposed by the Department of Public Works & Transportation.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

D. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION - Budget Authority Avonlea Section 2, Phase 1

I move to approve and authorize Commissioner President Guy to execute the related Budget Amendment reducing the Appropriation Reserve and increasing Section 2, Phase 2 & 3 of the Avonlea Subdivision Other Contract Services in the amount of \$30,800 to allow for completion of road construction.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

E. DEPT. OF RECREATION & PARKS - Memorandum of Agreement for Camp Inspire

I move to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education of St. Mary's County and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, on behalf of the Department of Recreation and Parks, in the amount of \$32,000, for the Camp Inspire Summer Camp and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

F. DEPT. OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Amending the Sub-Lease with S. Hunt Aero for the Business Incubator

I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Amendment to Sublease with S. Hunt Aero and related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

G. DEPT. OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2018 Governor's Office for Children - Notice of Funding Availability-Local Management Board (LMB) Application

I move to approve the FY2018 Governor's Office for Children - Notice of Funding Availability-Local Management Board (LMB) Application, project numbers MD1860, 1861, 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1888, on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services, in the amount of \$401,718 for administrative and program funding, and authorize the Commissioner President, LMB Board Chair Person, and the LMB Staff Point-of-Contact to execute the related documents, as applicable.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

7. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week and provided general comments.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

I move to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

A. PERSONNEL

PRESENT:

James R. Guy, President
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
Todd M. Morgan, Commissioner
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Catherine Pratson, Director, Human Resources
Christine Fleming, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:06 am - 11:32 am

Purpose: To discuss personnel issues.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 am.

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on 4/25/17

SLF

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator

10. PUBLIC HEARING - FY2018 RECOMMENDED BUDGET AND 65-10 SENIOR PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

Present:

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Tom Jarboe,
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner John E., O'Connor
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Jeannette Cudmore, Chief Financial Officer
Patty Stiegman,
Tony Jones, Public Information Officer, Moderator

Chris Fleming, Executive Assistant to the Commissioners
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Dr. Bridgett opened the FY2018 Recommended Budget and 65-10 Senior Property Tax Credit Public Hearings in the Leonardtown High School Auditorium at 6:30 pm. Following introductions of honored guests, Dr. Bridgett introduced Commissioner President Guy who introduced the other Commissioners and provided welcoming remarks.

Ms. Cudmore presented an overview of the \$220,000,000 FY18 Recommended Budget highlighting Revenue Sources and General Fund Expenditures. The budget includes a Constant Yield Rate at \$.08478 per \$100 of assessed value; a reduction of property taxes of \$14. Also, included in the Budget is a proposed Senior Property Tax Credit for seniors. Funding for the Board of Education is \$102.2 million and the Sheriff's Office \$38.5 million. Funding for County Departments is \$45.0 million. County funding includes 34 planned vehicle replacements, a Radio Systems Manager in Emergency Services & Technology, 1 Merit Increase on the anniversary date for Regular and Regular Part Time employees and a 0% Health Insurance rate increase.

Public Information Officer Tony Jones moderated the following 2 public hearings.

PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO GRANT A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT TO CERTAIN ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS AND VETERANS

Mr. Jones opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 pm.

The proposed ordinance would grant a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on the dwelling of (i) an individual who is at least 65 years old and has lived in the same dwelling for at least the preceding 40 years; or (ii) an individual who is at least 65 years old and is a retired member of the armed forces of the United States.

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing up for public comment.

Public comments given by:

Keith Harless, 23225 Mirfield Ln., Lexington Park, MD 20653

There were no others wishing to speak so Mr. Jones closed the hearing at 6:54 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING - FY 2018 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing and opened the public hearing for public comment at 6:55 pm.

Public comments given by:

Michael Blackwell, 17947 St. George's Park Rd., Tall Timbers, MD 20690

Keith Harless, 23225 Mirfield Ln., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Scott Smith, 40825 Springhouse Ln., Leonardtown, MD 20650

Janice Walthour, 204493 Partin's Ln., Lexington Park, MD

Anna Laughlin, Calvert County

There were no others wishing to speak so Mr. Jones closed the public hearing for public comment noting that the open public comment period for each hearing will remain open until April 28, 2017, then closed the public hearing at 7:05 pm.